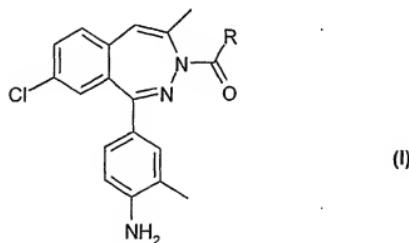


CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claims 1 through 14 (canceled).

1 Claim 15. (currently amended) A compound of the formula
2 (I)



5 wherein

6 R is a lower alkyl group or a group of the formula $\text{NH}-\text{R}^1-\text{NHR}^1$,

7 wherein

8 R^1 is a lower alkyl or a lower cycloalkyl group [()]], or a
9 pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof.

1 Claim 16. (previously presented) The compound of the
2 formula (I) as defined in claim 15, wherein R is C_1 to C_4 alkyl, or
3 a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof.

1 Claim 17. (previously presented) The compound of the
2 formula (I) as defined in claim 16, wherein R is methyl or ethyl,
3 or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof.

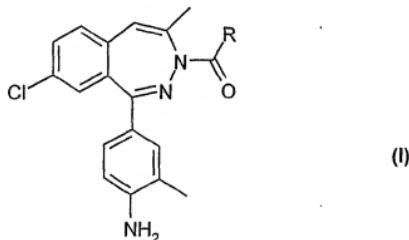
1 Claim 18. (currently amended) The compound of the
2 formula (I) as defined in ~~claim 1~~ claim 15, wherein R is a group of
3 the formula $\text{NH}-\text{R}^1$ -NHR^1 , and R^1 is a C_1 to C_4 alkyl or a C_3 to C_6
4 cycloalkyl group, or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition
5 salt thereof.

1 Claim 19. (previously presented) The compound of the
2 formula (I) as defined in claim 18, wherein R^1 is a methyl or a
3 cyclopropyl group, or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition
4 salt thereof.

1 Claim 20. (previously presented) The compound of the
2 formula (I) as defined in claim 15, selected from the group
3 consisting of:

4 (a) 1-(4-amino-3-methylphenyl)-8-chloro-4-methyl-
5 -3H-2,3-benzodiazepine 3-carboxylic acid methyl amide;
6 (b) 1-(4-amino-3-methylphenyl)-8-chloro-4-methyl-
7 -3H-2,3- benzodiazepine-3-carboxylic acid cyclopropyl amide;
8 (c) 3-acetyl-1-(4-amino-3-methylphenyl)-8-chloro-4-
9 methyl-3H-2,3-benzodiazepine; and

10 (d) 3-propionyl-1-(4-amino-3-methylphenyl)-8-chloro-
11 4-methyl-3H-2,3-benzodiazepine, or a pharmaceutically acceptable
12 acid addition salt thereof.



5 wherein

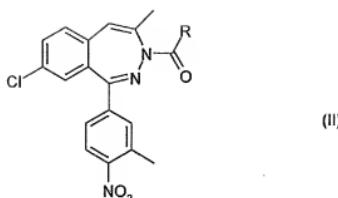
R is a C₁ to C₆ alkyl group or a group of the formula NH-

⁷ R^{\pm} -NHR¹, wherein

8 R¹ is a C₁ to C₆ alkyl or a C₃ to C₇ cycloalkyl group, or a
9 pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof, which
10 comprises

(a) reducing a compound of the formula (II),

12



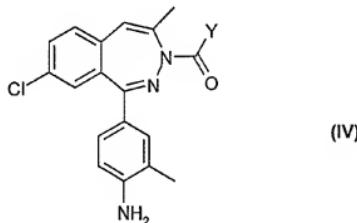
13 wherein R is as stated above; or

14 for the preparation of a compound of the formula (I)

15 wherein R is specifically a group of the formula $\text{NH}-\text{R}^1$ $-\text{NHR}^1$ wherein
16 R^1 is as stated above,

17 (b) reacting a compound of the formula (IV),

18

19 wherein Y is a lower alkyl group or a leaving
20 group, with a compound of the formula (V),

21



(V)

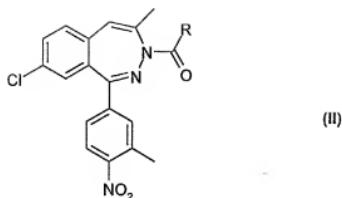
22 wherein R¹ is as stated above,
23 and, if desired, converting the compound of the formula (I) thus
24 obtained into a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt
25 thereof.

1 Claim 22. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical
2 composition for treating ~~a central nervous system disorder~~ cerebral
3 ischemia comprising as active ingredient a therapeutically
4 effective amount of the compound of the formula (I) as defined in
5 claim 15 or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt
6 thereof in admixture with an inert solid or liquid carriers and/or
7 auxiliary agent.

1 Claim 23. (currently amended) A method of treating a
2 patient suffering from ~~a central nervous system disorder~~ cerebral
3 ischemia to protect the patient from neuronal loss, which comprises
4 the step of administering to said patient in need of such
5 treatment, a therapeutically effective amount of the compound of
6 the formula (I) as defined in claim 15 or a pharmaceutically
7 acceptable acid addition salt thereof.

1 Claim 24. (currently amended) A compound of the formula
2 (II)

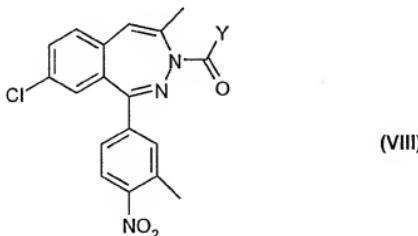
3



4 wherein R is a lower alkyl group or a group of the formula NH-R^1 =
5 NHR¹, wherein
6 R¹ is a lower alkyl or a lower cycloalkyl group [()]], or a
7 pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof.

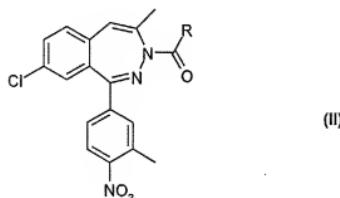
1 Claim 25. (previously presented) A compound of the
2 formula (VIII)

3

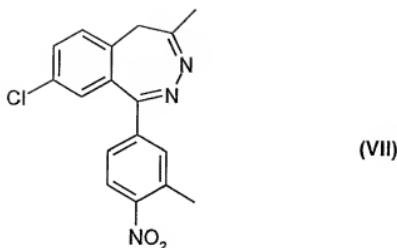


4 wherein Y is a leaving group.

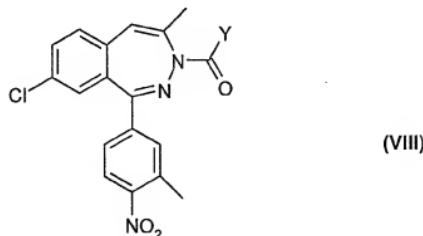
1 Claim 26. (currently amended) A process for the
2 preparation of a compound of the formula (II)



4 wherein
5 R is a lower alkyl group or a group of the formula NH-R^2 -NHR^1 ,
6 wherein
7 R¹ is a lower alkyl or a lower cycloalkyl group [()]], or a
8 pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof, which
9 comprises the steps of: reacting a compound of the formula (VII)

10
1112 with a reagent capable of introducing a Y group, and reacting the
13 thus-obtained compound of the formula (VIII)

14



15 with a compound of the formula (V)



16

17 to obtain the desired product.